<u>REMARKS</u>

Applicant respectfully requests that the foregoing amendments be made prior to examination of the present application.

In the specification, paragraphs have been amended on pages 1, 34, and 35.

Claims 1 - 6 and 9 - 18 are requested to be cancelled.

Claims 7 and 8 are currently being amended.

This amendment adds, changes and/or deletes claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 7 and 8 are now pending in this application.

Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

Date April 16, 2004

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Respectfully submitted,

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By